

ABSOLUTE RATING: Good

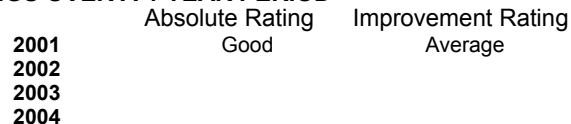
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Average

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 88.

The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to excellent.

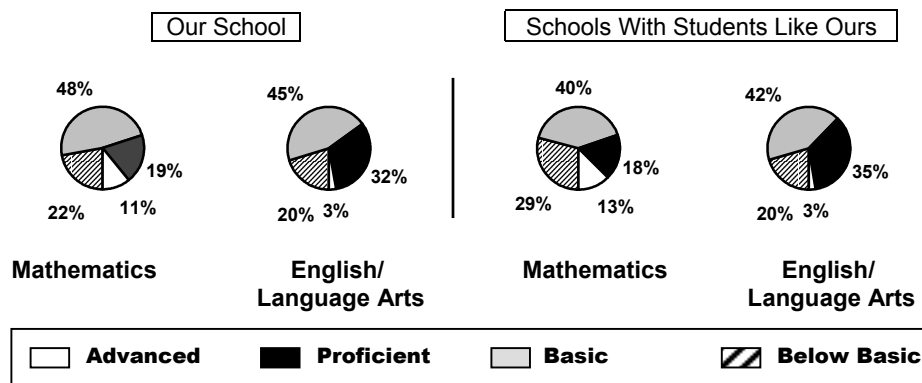
For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=243)	79.8	77.8	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=21)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=220)	84.1	82.3		
Gender				
Male (n=119)	74.8	73.6		
Female (n=122)	86.1	82		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=68)	75	70		
Hispanic (n=4)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=130)	85.4	83.1		
Other (n=39)	71.8	74.4		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=113)	72.6	64.3		
Pay for lunch (n=128)	87.5	89.8		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$5,069	N/A	\$5,081	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	91.4%	Down from 91.7%	90.5%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.7 to 1	N/A	19 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=522)				
• Attendance Rate	96.2%	Down from 96.6%	96.2%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	3.7%	N/A	4%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	2.5%	N/A	2.9%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	100%	Up from 99%	96%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	0.9%	Up from 0.8%	3.2%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=37)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	6.4 Days	Down from 7.1	7.7 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	96%	Down from 96.2%	95.3%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	45.9%	Down from 51.4%	48.3%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	89.2%	Up from 71.1%	84.4%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	0%	No change	0%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	88.5%	Up from 87.3%	88%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$39,962	Up 5.8%	\$38,043	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	76.7%	N/A	64.8%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	1	N/A	4	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	99%	N/A	97%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	N/A	N/A	42.7%	43.1%
• On academic probation	N/A	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	0.6%	Down from 0.7%	1%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	0	N/A	1	1
• Gifted and talented	6.4%	Down from 8%	14.7%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	7.8%	Up from 7%	9.2%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Independence Elementary is a Title I targeted assisted school located near the Catawba Indian Reservation in Rock Hill. Fifty-nine certified and non-certified staff serve a population of 530 students. The goal of our staff is to provide opportunities for all children to reach their full potential and be challenged personally and academically. In the 2000-2001 school year, all grade levels met state and district standards in all areas of PACT. It is the goal of the strategic plan to increase the number of students scoring at proficient and advanced in all grade levels. In order to accomplish this, Independence will continue to focus on literacy and math, while integrating other content areas into the core subjects. Staff development through participation in the South Carolina Reading Initiative and through a monthly focus on some aspect of the curriculum will continue to strengthen and reinforce best practice for instruction in the classroom. Our school received the Flagship Schools of Promise Award and was a finalist in the Literacy Spot Award. Expansion of the technology program will include a specific set of skills for each grade level, more integration into the curriculum, and greater communication via the school Web site. The staff has written and received funding from ten Foundation Grants in the last two years, totaling \$5,000.00 to support the curriculum, build the literacy library, help defray the cost of authors, provide special programs, and supply resources for the Parent Resource Room. Each grade level was responsible for a service learning project, thus allowing students to give back to the community while focusing on the needs of others. Extended-day activities such as CCC Lab, tutorial classes, and enrichment clubs before and after school, are designed to increase student engagement. The School Improvement Council meets monthly to discuss the implementation of the school strategic plan and to provide input on new and innovative ideas for the school. Volunteers have exceeded last year's efforts and continue to provide our school with a wealth of resources from which to draw. The challenge for next year will be to continue the momentum begun by the staff and to provide opportunities for families to feel even more a part of the school community through increased involvement. With active PTO/School Improvement Council members, business partners, community sponsors, and an outstanding staff, it is anticipated that next year's efforts will bring even more success to a school that is dedicated to excellence.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	100.0	91.0	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	97.3	85.1	
Satisfied with home-school relations	94.6	92.5	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

4603036

Independence Elementary
132 W. Springdale Rd.
Rock Hill, S.C. 29730

Grades K-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 522 Students

Principal

Mary Chandler 803-981-1135

Superintendent

Phillip J. McDaniel 803-981-1000

Board Chair

Kathy Pender 803-980-5512

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Good

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com